

PRESS RELEASE

Office of the United States Attorney
Middle District of Florida

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For Immediate Release

December 17, 2003

DEFENDANT SENTENCED IN "LEGACY TRUST" INVESTMENT FRAUD SCHEME

Tampa, FL - On December 16, 2003, U.S. District Judge Elizabeth A. Kovachevich sentenced CARL DIXON to a term of 27 months' imprisonment, to be followed by a term of three (3) years' supervised release. The court also ordered him to pay restitution in the amount of \$1,029,000.00. DIXON pled guilty on December 5, 2002 to one count of conspiracy to commit wire and mail fraud and other offenses against the United States.

DIXON was a promoter of Legacy Trust, a business entity which, in the period between January, 1994 and May, 1995, sold more than \$1 million in investment certificates to investors. DIXON and Legacy Trust promoters promised their mostly elderly investors a guaranteed return on their money and that the funds they gave would be used to invest in legitimate, profit making ventures. In reality, DIXON and others involved in Legacy Trust made few such investments and used most of the funds either for personal uses or to aid a co-conspirator who owed money to investors from another fraudulent investment

scheme. As a result, the Legacy Trust victims lost almost all of the approximately \$1,029,000 which they had invested in Legacy Trust.

The case was investigated by agents of the Internal Revenue Service - Criminal Investigation Division and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Jay L. Hoffer of the Special Prosecutions Section of the Tampa Division.